

Senate Resolution 992

By: Senator Schaefer of the 50th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Stephens County for being designated this state's newest  
2 Entrepreneur Friendly community.

3 WHEREAS, on January 15, 2008, Stephens County became the 76th community in this state  
4 to be named Entrepreneur Friendly by the Georgia Department of Economic Development;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, this designation indicates that the Stephens County community has developed  
7 an environment that is welcoming to small businesses and entrepreneurs; and

8 WHEREAS, approximately 91 percent of Stephens County's 1,048 companies are small  
9 businesses with fewer than 20 employees; and

10 WHEREAS, to earn this designation, Stephens County completed the Entrepreneur Friendly  
11 program with the assistance of the Georgia Department of Economic Development; and

12 WHEREAS, the county analyzed its entrepreneurial and small business environment and  
13 developed strategies to help foster the growth of this critical business segment; and

14 WHEREAS, being awarded this designation makes qualified entrepreneurs and small  
15 business owners in Stephens County eligible for customized market data, such as  
16 demographic business information, which will help give them a competitive edge; and

17 WHEREAS, the county is also eligible for an Entrepreneur-Friendly Implementation Fund  
18 grant to assist it with implementing long-term programs that support its entrepreneurs and  
19 small businesses; and

1 WHEREAS, Stephens County's goal is to create an entrepreneur friendly environment and  
2 build entrepreneur and small business strategies into its overall economic development  
3 strategies.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
5 recognize Stephens County for being designated this state's newest Entrepreneur Friendly  
6 community and commend it for its efforts to encourage and support entrepreneurs and small  
7 businesses in its community.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is hereby authorized and  
9 directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Stephens County  
10 Entrepreneur Friendly Committee.